

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for detachably holding a transverse rod (7) supported by at least two supporting arms (3,3), ~~in which comprising~~
 - a) the supporting arms (3,3) ~~, each of the supporting arms (3,3) including a first end (31) and a second end (30) and being, are fixed detachably or permanently in a supporting structure (1,2) by way of their the first end (31);~~
 - b) ~~the transverse rod (7) is intended for suspending hangers, in particular clothes hangers; and~~
 - c) ~~the hangers are intended for suspending articles, in particular items of clothing, and can be freely displaced on the transverse rod (7);~~
 - d) ~~b) connection means for receiving the transverse rod (7) are, the connection means being arranged at the second end (30) of each supporting arm (3,3), this the second end projecting into the a room, characterized in that e) the connection means is of having a fork-shaped design with an opening for receiving the cross section of the transverse rod (7) and partially encloses enclosing the transverse rod (7) while clamping it the transverse rod (7), the connection means (5,6) comprising:~~
 - ba) ~~an adaptor (5) attached to the second end (30) of the supporting arm (3,3); and~~

bc)an insert (6) sized and shaped so as to be fitted onto the adaptor (5) and producing elastic clamping forces,

the insert (6) extending radially over more than half the circumference of the transverse rod (7) and has an opening, and, when the transverse rod (7) is inserted, the insert (6) first widens and then narrows, whereby an inserted transverse rod (7) is supported from below while being clamped,

the adaptor (5) comprising a basic body (50) and including an arcuate cutout (51) with a through-passage direction (R) situated transversely to the supporting arm (3,3) and axially to the secured transverse rod (7); a first upwardly extending prong (54) passing on one side round the cutout (51) and including a first free upper end, and a second upwardly extending prong (54) passing on an opposite side round the cutout (51) and including a second free upper end; and a first lug (52) continuing at the first free, upper end of the prong (54), and a second lug (52) continuing at the second free, upper end of the prong (54), the first and second lugs being directed toward one another and into the cutout (51);

the insert (6) having a half-shell shape and including two ends (60,61) projecting into the room and leaving between the two ends (60,61) the opening; a curved inner face (63) and a curved outer face (64); a groove (65) extending circularly on the outer face (64), terminating at a distance in front of the ends (60,61) and sized and shaped so as to partially receive the adaptor (5); and a first aperture (62) present at one end of the groove (65) and sized and shaped so as to engage the first lug (52), and a second aperture (62) present at the opposite end of the groove (65) and sized and shaped so as to engage the second lug (52).

2. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein characterized in that the connection means (5,6) comprises:

- a) an adaptor (5) attached to or integrally formed on the second end (30) of the supporting arm (3,3), for example by welding, machining or non-cutting shaping;
- b) an insert (6) which is to be fitted onto the adaptor (5), the insert consisting consists of elastic material, for example polycarbonate, and/or producing elastic clamping forces by being provided with spring elements; in which arrangement
- c) the supporting arm (3,3) may, for example, consist of cross-sectionally round, tubular or flat material.

3. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in Claim 1 wherein or 2, characterized in that the inset (6)

- a) has an opening of span (a) which extends over the upper region and, when inserting the transverse rod (7), first widens and then narrows again, whereby an inserted transverse rod (7) is supported from below while being clamped; and b) extends radially over more than half the circumference of the transverse rod (7).
- the transverse rod (7) has a distance (d), the lugs (52) on the adaptor (5) being arranged at a distance (d) which corresponds to the diameter (d) of the transverse rod (7), thereby, in the assembled state, with insert (6) included, the transverse rod (7) inserted into the adaptor (5) lies in a clamped-in manner between the lugs (52) so as to secure against rotation.

4. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that a) the adaptor (5) comprises a basic body (50) and has: aa) an arcuate cutout (51) with a through passage direction (R) situated transversely to the supporting arm (3,3) and axially to the secured transverse rod (7); ab) an upwardly extending prong (54) passing one on each side round the cutout (51); and ac) a lug (52) continuing at each of the free, upper ends of the prongs (54), the lugs being directed toward one another and into the cutout (51); and b) the insert (6) is an element of half-shell shape in principle and has: ba) two ends (60,61) which project into the room and leave between them the opening with the span (a); bb) a curved inner face (63) and a curved outer face (64); bc) a groove (65) which extends circularly on the outer face (64), terminates at a distance in front of the ends (60,61) and is intended for partially receiving the adaptor (5); and bd) an aperture (62) present at each of the terminations of the groove (65) and intended for the engagement of the lugs (52).

- a) a groove (53) is present at the bottom of the cutout (51) of the adaptor (5); and
- b) a raised rib (66) runs in the groove (65) of the insert (6) and, when the insert (6) is fitted on, comes to lie in the groove (53) in the adaptor (5).

5. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that, a) the lugs (52) on the adaptor (5) are arranged in principle at a distance (d) which corresponds to the diameter (d) of the transverse rod (7); as a result of which b) in the assembled state, with insert (6) included, a transverse rod (7) inserted into

~~the adaptor (5) comes to lie in a clamped-in manner between the lugs (52) so as to secure against rotation.~~

- a) the supporting structure (1,2) comprises a panel wall (1) mounted permanently in a building, having securing means (2) mounted thereon;
- b) the securing means (2) are formed by profiled vertical rails;
- c) the supporting arms (3,3) are provided at the first end (31) with a connecting piece (4) which is intended to be detachably fastened in the securing means (2).

6 to 11. (Canceled)